

BISMARCK - MANDAN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP & CHURCH

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Bismarck, ND 58501  
701-223-6788

WEBSITE: [bismanuu.org](http://bismanuu.org) • EMAIL: [office@bismanuu.org](mailto:office@bismanuu.org)



Sunday Services & Children's Programs: 10:30 AM  
Fellowship & Refreshments: Following Service

# The Beacon

*The BisMan UU Monthly Newsletter—Sharing Unitarian Universalist Values in the Capital City Area*

**Sunday, February 3**

A NEW VOICE AT THE CAPITAL

Joshua Boschee

Facilitated by Tyler Demars

Joshua Boschee was elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives this past November and represents District 44 (north Fargo). His professional and personal background in education and social justice advocacy has driven him to work on legislation that will improve the quality of life for underrepresented North Dakotans.

In his program, Joshua will discuss his experiences during the campaign, as being elected the first openly-gay legislator and what he hopes to accomplish as a new, diverse voice in the North Dakota Legislature.

**Sunday, February 24**

MAKERS AND TAKERS: A LOVE STORY

Tyler Demars

Facilitated by Don Morrison

Self actualization is the achievement of one's full potential through creativity, independence, spontaneity, and a grasp of the real world. In a continuation of our ongoing discussion about the relationship between the individual and the community, we explore how collective actualization is tied to self interest and individual achievement, specifically addressing truth and the less-than-true behind the "makers and takers" worldview.

**Sunday, February 10**

WHAT MAKES YOU, YOU?

Ronya Hoblit

Facilitated by Colleen Reinke

Do you know the answers to all that went into who you are today? Let's go exploring and proceed to the importance of sharing who you are and why your story is so darn significant.

Ronya Hoblit is a natural/adopted child, with heritage roots in the Native American, Mexican, Scottish, German and who knows what else, the youngest of all three of her families, single mother, Unci, sister, aunt, cousin, daughter.....All this, and so much more, makes her, her.

**Sunday, February 17**

SHARE THE LOVE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Molly Brooks & Don Morrison

This Sunday will mark the end of the UUA's 30 Days of Love--a period for intentional action, service, education, and reflection on social justice. We will share lessons learned from participating in the 30 Days of Love, including how easy it can be to become more informed on social justice issues. We'll also discuss the spiritual power of social justice with a focus on equality, compassion, and interconnectedness. Finally, we'll explore how we can synthesize the facts and our own spiritual experience of social justice to continue to "Share the Love" in meaningful ways.

**Church Calendar**  
An asterisk (\*) indicates related article

Jan 19-Feb 17		* Thirty Days of Love Campaign
Sun Feb 3	9:00 AM	RE Leadership Meeting
Sun Feb 3	11:45 AM	Social Justice Meeting
Fri Feb 8	12:00 N	Women's Lunch at Minerva's
Mon Feb 11	7:00 PM	* Adult RE Conversation
Feb 11-12		UU Office Closed
Thurs Feb 14	7:00 PM	Meditation with Elicia Faul
Mon Feb 18		UU Office Closed
Tues Feb 19	7:15 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
Thurs Feb 21	7:00 PM	* Writing & Reflection Small Group
Fri Feb 22	5:30-7:30	* Artist Reception for Colleen Reinke
Fri Feb 22	6:00 PM	* Circle Supper in Host Home
Sat Feb 23	6:00 PM	* Circle Supper in Host Home
Mon Feb 25	7:00 PM	* Adult RE Conversation
Thurs Feb 28	7:00 PM	Meditation with Elicia Faul

Calendar Note: Men's BBQ day and location will be announced soon!

**Adult RE Corner**

Calling All Adults for Conversation

Are you a new comer?  
Are you a lifelong UU?

All are welcome to come and share conversation together based on the 88 page The Unitarian Universalist Pocket Guide.

Time: Mondays 7:00 - 8:15 pm  
Dates: February 11 and 25.  
Place: UU Library  
Facilitators: Janis Cheney & Carol Jean Larsen  
Books Available: \$7:00

***A Social Opportunity...***

***...for UU Members, Friends and Seekers***

**February Circle Suppers**

Let's get to know one another better by sharing a Potluck Meal together in a host's home with 6-8 people. The host provides the main dish and then suggests a food item for each guest to bring.

These 2 hour events are for adult members, friends and seekers.

- **Please RSVP for every date that you are available to be a guest or provide a host home.**
- **Note if you are Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten Free, or Allergic to Pets.**
- **Provide names of each adult**

**RSVP to UU office: 223-6788 or [office@bismanuu.org](mailto:office@bismanuu.org)**

	<u>As a guest</u>	<u>As a host home</u>
Feb. 22, Fri. supper at 6 PM	Yes	Yes
Feb. 23, Sat. supper at 6 PM	Yes	Yes



**Life Long Learning Opportunities—Act Now!**

Carol Jean Larsen  
Board President

In the next month, the UU Board will be selecting church members to serve as delegates to district and national conferences. However these enriching experiences are open to both members and UU friends. There is always programming for youth and children.

If you want to know more, please email your inquiry to [office@bismanuu.org](mailto:office@bismanuu.org) soon as well as connect to web links in this article.

**April 5-7 Cedar Rapids, IA** for the Prairie Star District's annual conference. March 15 is deadline for conference rates at the Cedar Rapids Marriott. Home hospitality and scholarships are available. Expect about 300 people to attend. Join the Bismarck car pool.

Important Delegate Votes

\* Proposal to have Prairie Star join with Heartland and Central Midwest districts to create the MidAmerica Region of the national UUA. This would replace the three existing districts.

\* Proposal to transfer ownership of our district's Camp UniStar to a foundation created to operate the camp.

I am personally looking forward to the lecture, "Unitarian Universalism Faces the Future". For several years, the big Albuquerque congregation has connected to several remote New Mexico lay-led congregations using technology.

[Link to Prairie Star District/Annual Conference](#)

**June 19-23 Louisville, KY** for the General Assembly, A Meeting of Congregations. Attendance will be about 4000.

The UUA Housing Reservation system opens on March 1 at 9:00 AM. There will be university style housing and home hospitality. Over 100 workshops, lectures, panels, film screenings and worship services will be offered. There will be a public witness on Thursday evening. About 15 individuals in our congregation have attended General Assemblies over the years. We love to talk about it!

[Link to UUA.org/generalassembly](http://UUA.org/generalassembly)

## Treasurer's Report—Lisa Omlid

### **2012 Year End Report**

<u>Total Income</u>	<u>Budget</u>
\$61,493	\$49,950

<u>Total Expense</u>	<u>Budget</u>
\$40,924	\$49,950

**Difference: +\$20,569**

### **Balances as of 12/31/2012**

<u>US Bank Checking</u>	<u>US Bank Savings</u>
\$6,729	\$15,601
<u>Wells Fargo Money Market</u>	<u>Wells Fargo Mutual Funds</u>
\$32,619	\$27,956

### **2013 Membership**

On Jan. 22, 2013, we certified to the UUA that our current adult membership is 64. This is the number determining our per member contribution of \$60 to the UUA and \$23 to the PSD.

### **2013 Pledge Status**

2013 Pledge Status: \$41,560 from members and friends. Our budget goal is \$46,980. There are still unreturned pledge cards. It is not too late!

## UU Sunday Treat Teams

If any of the following February treat teams cannot work their Sunday, please contact Tammy Hathaway in the church office, while regular coordinator, Janet Lucas, is away for the month of February: [office@bismanuu.org](mailto:office@bismanuu.org) or 223.6788.

### February Dates & Teams

3	Angela Harmon & LaVonne Aull
10	Ronya Hoblit & Jim Lennington
17	Rick Makelky & Carol Jean Larsen
24	Tim & Tammy Hathaway

### Team Duties (Posted in kitchen)

Provide simple treats for about 48  
 Arrive at church at 10:00 AM  
 Empty dish washer, check the tea items.  
 At about 12 noon, clean up.  
 Thank you to those folks who provided treats so far this year!

## Writing & Reflection— Small Group Opportunity

Do you write? Think about writing? Want to write? Struggle to find the time to write? You are not alone!

Ronya Hoblit and Janis Cheney invite you to join them for an evening of writing, reflection, and conversation on Thursday February 21 at 7 p.m. at the church. We will begin with a brief reading, take time for reflection and writing, and share as we are moved to do so. We will decide as a group if, when, and how to continue the experience.

The only requirements for participating are a willing spirit and an open heart. If you have questions, please contact Janis ([jcheney@bis.midco.net](mailto:jcheney@bis.midco.net) or 426-6950) or Ronya ([hoblit2001@yahoo.com](mailto:hoblit2001@yahoo.com)), or contact Tammy at the church office ([office@bismanuu.org](mailto:office@bismanuu.org) or 223-6788).



**I Stand on the  
Side of Love  
WILL YOU?**

## Standing on the Side of Love

Join the JUA's Standing on the Side of Love's Thirty Days of Love, a period for intentional action, service, education, and reflection running from January 19 to February 17, 2013. Sign up to receive free daily emails with inspiring quotes, additional information on social justice issues, and small social justice action steps at <http://www.standingonthesideoflove.org/30daysoflove/>

Those of you who are receiving the emails and participating in some of the activities please email Molly Brooks at [brooks.molly@gmail.com](mailto:brooks.molly@gmail.com). She'd love to hear about it!

## Important UU Parking Information

We have been notified by the State Land Office (the building and parking area to our east) that we must be mindful when using their large lot or the 3-space small area off 9<sup>th</sup> St. Their snow removal contractors come on the weekends to plow. If there are cars there, they can't do their job. Typically it's not a problem to park there but if it is snowing or there is fresh snow in the lots, PLEASE choose a different spot to park. We don't want this to BECOME a problem and they are forced to tell us to not to use their lot at all! Thank you!



**Dreadlocks Girl**

## New Art Show—People and Places Watercolors by Colleen Reinke

Watercolor paintings by Colleen Reinke are currently on display in the sanctuary on the UU Artwall. The show is entitled People and Places for obvious reasons, as both people and places are the subjects of the paintings.

Colleen has been “drawing” all her life and still has birthday cards and some fabulous abstract crayon art she made in grade school. She was active in art club in high school and took a college drawing course before being convinced that “no one” can make a living doing art. While living in Wisconsin in the 1990s, Colleen started taking adult education art classes, including watercolor painting with Jeanne Ruchti. Like Jeanne, Colleen prefers to use 300 pound (thick) watercolor paper, a LOT of color, and a loose painting style. Like Jeanne, there is no white, black, or grey on Colleen's watercolor palette – those colors are “made” with the white of the paper and mixing other colors.

A reception, complete with refreshments, is scheduled for Friday, February 22 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Many of the pieces are for sale, and if you are interested, Tammy has a price list in the office. You may also contact Colleen for custom portraits or other paintings. Colleen's other life includes being the immediate past president of the UU Board of Directors.

## Sacred Space Continuous Efforts

At the annual meeting in December, the Sacred Space Task Force (SSTF) presented the results of its first year of work on behalf of the congregation. The SSTF is charged by the UU Board of Directors with analyzing our current space and our need for space, determining our long term building needs, and hiring and supervising an architect to accomplish these initial analyses. The SSTF has been working with Joseph P. Larrivee Architects (JPL) to accomplish these tasks.

To date, we have received an assessment of our current building, including an estimate of the costs of bringing everything (except the bathrooms) up to code and replacing parts of the church that need replacing, such as the windows and roof, with no actual remodeling. That price tag is nearly \$500,000. JPL has also provided some very preliminary options for remodeling or building a new building, all with various price tags.

Our task as a congregation is to determine what we NEED to function as a liberal, progressive congregation in our commu-

nity, including providing for the religious education of children, professional ministry, accommodating guests, and allowing for growth, among other functions. Congregational input will guide the architect in planning to meet our needs.

To that end, the SSTF has met with two interest groups and will be meeting with other groups in the near future. Information gathered at these meetings will be used by the architect to revise drawings as early as March. Once we have a better idea of what plans might look like, the SSTF will be providing everyone in the congregation with the opportunity to provide input into this process later this spring. After that input is gathered, the architect will again review that information and modify plans as needed.

Once we have good and thorough information from the congregation and that has been reviewed and translated into drawings by the architect, we can, as a congregation, analyze all options and make a decision on where to go from here.

If you have questions about this process, please contact Jim Lenington: jimleenn2@gmail.com or 223.3899.

## Candles for the Journey

We have been missing the friendly smile of LaVonne Scott, who has not been feeling well this winter. We hope to see her back with us soon.

Keep Tom Disselhorst and his wife, Arlene Andre in your prayers as she continues chemotherapy.

Several members of the congregation had the opportunity to share a noon meal with Janell Cole while she was in town in mid-January. Janell is working for FEMA in NYC as a result of Hurricane Sandy and seems to be thriving with this temporary assignment. Janell will be returning to ND in mid-March.



## Guest at Your Table Update

The Bis-Man UU members and friends donated **\$810.00** to support the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's mission: *UUSC advances human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies.* Thank you!!

## UU Website

We have a new website! The address is the same but the look is fresh and new! Take a look at [www.bismanuu.org](http://www.bismanuu.org) and let us know what you think! There are still some items under construction and things which need tweaking but most everything is up and running and looking good! Thank you to Molly Brooks for her work on getting this done!

## UU Parent Reminder

Parents: Please don't forget to sign your kids in and out before and after Sunday service! Even though 3 classrooms are now starting in the front and being sung out, it is important that ALL kids are signed into their proper classroom before service begins and out again immediately following service. Thank you!

## Mitten Tree Donation

Thanks to all who added warm caps and mittens to our Mitten Tree during the Christmas season. Those items were donated to the Ruth Meier's Women's Shelter on Monday, January 7th. The Women's Shelter provides temporary housing to single women and their children, single men and their children, and to married couples with children. This facility greatly enhances the services available through the Ruth Meier's program. Our gifts of warmth were well received and a thank you note has already been received from the Ruth Meier's Hospitality House.

## Greeting Cards for Your Use

Over the past several months, members and friends of the congregation have been cleaning out their homes and finding greeting cards to donate to us. Most of those cards have now been organized into categories, and matched with an appropriate-sized envelope to make it easy for you to find an appropriate card when you need one.

The purpose of this greeting card collection is to give you the ability to easily pick out a card to send to someone who has lit a candle during the Sharing of Joys and Concerns portion of our morning service. Has someone's relative just died? Has someone announced that he, she, or a family member has been diagnosed with a serious illness? Has someone retired or celebrated a major accomplishment? We have cards for you to select that would be appropriate for all such life events.

Our filing system is not very fancy. There are 2 boxes of cards sorted into the following categories:

Thinking of You  
Sympathy  
Get Well  
Thank You  
Congratulations

Birthday  
Relative Birthday  
Christmas  
Blank cards, giving you the ability to craft your own greeting.  
Additional categories can be added as appropriate

The greeting card collection is located on the bottom shelf of the bookcase, just to the right as you walk through the door into the church office. Find the appropriate category for the message you wish to send. Read through several of the cards in that category to find one you like. Either take the card home with you to sign and address, or find a quiet place in the building to sign and address the card. If she doesn't have 10 other people vying for her attention, Tammy may be able to help you find the address for the congregational member/friend to whom you wish to send the card.

These cards came from many of you, and they are for all of you to use. It is just a little way that we can extend our hospitality to one another.

## Board of Trustees and Staff

President, Carol Jean Larsen      cjlarsen43@bis.midco.net  
Vice President, Tim Hathaway      hathaway.timothy.l@gmail.com  
Secretary, Marnie Piehl      marnie.piehl@bismarckstate.edu  
piehl.patch@gmail.com  
Treasurer, Lisa Omlid      omlid.lisa@gmail.com  
Director, Rick Makelky      rmakelky@hotmail.com  
Director, Beth Nodland      bnodland@aol.com  
Director, Colleen Reinke      cjreinke@gmail.com

### Office Administrator

Tammy Hathaway  
Church phone: 701-223-6788 • Cell phone: 701-426-9307  
E-mail: office@bismanuu.org

## Bis-Man UU Fellowship & Church

P.O. Box 297  
Bismarck, ND 58502

[We are on Facebook!](#)

**Check out our Website!**

[www.bismanuu.org](http://www.bismanuu.org)



## REGULAR UU OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00—2:00 PM

### ***Vision Statement***

*We will be a vibrant, caring, spiritual community  
for all who seek an inspirational and  
religious home.*

### ***Mission Statement***

*We are a fellowship of free minds, welcoming  
all, a beacon of enlightenment and sanctuary,  
and offering a call to build a better self,  
community and world.*

### ***Religious Education Mission Statement***

*The Bismarck-Mandan Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship seeks to provide a path for spiritual  
inquiry for people of all ages.*

### ***Welcoming Congregation***

*We are a Unitarian Universalist Welcoming  
Congregation that seeks to be a spiritual home  
for people of free faith regardless of race, color,  
gender, affectional or sexual orientation, age,  
national origin, socioeconomic status,  
physical or mental ability.*

## Very Useful Links

[Unitarian Universalist Association](http://www.uua.org)

[www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)

[Prairie Star District](http://www.psdoua.org)

[www.psdoua.org](http://www.psdoua.org)

[Church of the Larger Fellowship](http://www.clf.uua.org)

[www.clf.uua.org](http://www.clf.uua.org)

[Quest for Meaning](http://www.questformeaning.org)

(Church of the Larger Fellowship Young Adult Forum—VERY cool!)

[www.questformeaning.org](http://www.questformeaning.org)